

Western Wayne County Conservation Association
6700 Napier
Plymouth, Michigan 48170



Dear House Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Committee,

The Western Wayne County Conservation Association is in support of Senate Bill 1035 in order to protect organizations across the state that are in jeopardy of losing their property tax exemption. Since 1938, our organization has provided the community benefits in a multitude of ways. Whether it be providing space for the Boy Scouts of America, law enforcement or hosting weddings, we have always served as place for the community to use for their needs.

Senate Bill 1035 was developed in order to define the charitable goals and activities sportsmen's clubs would need to meet in order to remain tax-exempt. Real land owned by a sportsmen's club would be tax-exempt if clubs satisfy a six-part requirement defined by law and the club attests to meeting those requirements annually.

Many sportsmen's clubs in the state do not have the budget to take on these tax assessments given by local government. Services provided to the community such as offering law enforcement free opportunities to maintain their firearm certifications or offering a place for the local Boy Scouts of America troop to meet may not be available if the club has to close its doors because of property tax assessments. Both of these examples are services that Western Wayne County Conservation Association provides to the community.

Our association has approximately 1,000 members, all of which are at risk of losing an integral part of their community and livelihood. Our club takes pride in educating not only our members but also members of the community about important conservation topics, hunter safety and protecting our natural resources.

Kind Regards,

Pattie Biegalski

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President- WWCCA